लखनऊ में केन्द्रीय ऊसर भूमि शोध संस्थान की इकाई

3257. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की 20 प्रतिशत भूमि ऊसर या क्षारीय है;

(ख) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्रीय ऊसर भूमि शोध संस्थान, करनाल की तरह उसकी एक इकाई लखनऊ में स्थापित करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार को भेजा है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उक्त इकाई की स्थापना कब तक कर दी जाएगी; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) जी, नहीं। यह आकलन सही नहीं है। उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश में कृषि के अधीन कुल क्षेत्र का लगभग 4% क्षेत्र ही लवणता से प्रभावित है।

(ख) जी, हां। केन्द्रीय मृदा लवणता अनुसंधान संस्थान, करनाल का एक क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र खोलने का प्रस्ताव भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् में विचाराधीन है।

(ग) इस प्रस्ताव को अब परिषद् की नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के ई०एफ०सी० मीमों में शामिल कर लिया गया है और योजना आयोग से इसके लिए धनराशि के आवंटन की प्रतीक्षा है।

(घ) लागू नहीं होता।

Production of Rice in Maharashtra

3258. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the production of rice in Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that rice production in the State is stagnant and is around 20 to 25 lakh tonnes every year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to increase production of rice in the State, particularly the coarse variey which is popular in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (*SHRI SOMPAL*): (a) The estimated production of rice in Maharashtra during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 is 25.63 lakh tonnes, 26.14 lakh tonnes and 24.24 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) No, Sir. The average annual production of rice in the State has increased from 18.82 lakh tonnes in the trienium ending 1987-88 to 24.67 lakh tonnes in the trienium ending 1997-98.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) In order to further increase the production and productivity of cereal crops including rice a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals) is being implemented in the State of Maharashtra. Under the above programme, incentives are being provided to the farmers on the use of certified seeds, improved farm implements, sprinkler irrigation sets so as to motivate them to adopt the improved crop production technology. Besides, field demonstrations and farmers trainings are also being organised for the effective transfer of technology.

New Agricultural Institutes in the North-Eastern States

3259. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for opening new ICAR Institutes/NRCS/PDS in the North-Eastern States during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the locations thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the existing Mao Potato Farm, Manipur, which has been functioning on regional basis, can be converted into Central Potato Research Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Council has already established ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, NRCs and other Regional Stations in the North Eastern States to cater the research needs of the NE States and these are being fulfilled through the existing infrastructure and network of ICAR units.

(c) No, Sir. The Mao Potato Farm, Manipur is primarily a seed farm for multiplication of potato seeds for Eastern Region, like State Seed Farms in different states of the country. One Central Potato Research Institute Regional Station in the Eastern Region at Patna and another for North Eastern Region at Shillong are catering to the research needs of the region. The CPRI is providing all necessary technical support to Mao Potato Farm in potato seed multiplication.

Extension of Intensive Cooperative Development Programme

3260. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government encourage the extenstion of the Intensive Cooperative Development Programme (ICDP) in various States;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has applied for extension of the ICDP to five additional districts; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has been encouraging the extension of the Intensive Cooperative Development Programmes through the plan scheme known as 'Integrated Cooperative Development Projects (ICDPs)' in various parts of the country.

(b) and (c) As reported by the NCDC, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for extension of ICDP in 15 additional districts in the State. Andhra Pradesh is one of the major beneficiaries of the scheme of ICDP. Already, 6 ICDPs at a cost of Rs. 51.08 crores have been sanctioned by the NCDC has approved one more project in Guntur District during the year 1993-94 has released assistance for the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) which is still awaited from the State Government. The ICDPs at Chittoor and Krishna Districts have been logging behind the schedule because of slow implementation of the Project. However, NCDC has extended the validity of these two projects for two years. Besides, the implementation of ICDPs at Nalgonda and Kurnool Districts is not satisfactory. In view of these factors and taking into account the overall availability of resources for this schemes and the need to give a fair share of ICDPs to various parts of the country, NCDC may not be in a position to extend ICDP to more Districts in Andhra Pradesh at this stage.

Energisation action of Pumping Sets

3261. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pumping sets energised till the end of Eights Five Year Plan in various States and how many of them are in operation at present; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the over-exploitation of ground water resources as a result of the energisation of pumping sets, which has resulted in the serious imbalance in soil fertility and environment degradation and if so, the reaction of Government in this regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per the Rural Electrification Corp. Ltd. (A Govt. of